

TOWN OF NEWFIELDS BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2005

The meeting was called to order at 6:35pm. Selectmen present were James McIlroy and Roberta Gerkin. Others present were Reuben Hull, Michael Price, Brian Knipstein, David Dwyer, Fran Lane, Chief Art Reed and Wendy Chase. Selectman Janet Smith arrived at 9:10pm.

Both James and Brian followed up on a resident's complaint on snow removal by driving by the residence to view. James asked if Brian could refrain from using the front end loader to push back snow. Brian informed the Board that he needs to push the snow back to make room for future snow storms. He needs to plow cul de sacs wide enough for emergency vehicles and school busses to get through. The Board will send a letter to the resident.

The second reading for the 10 ton limit ordinance was read. Last weeks discussion was considered the first reading of the proposed ordinance. The third and final reading will be placed on March 29<sup>th</sup> agenda.

Chief Reed asked to meet with Roberta and update her on the Police Department. He will contact her to set up a meeting.

Roberta and James reviewed an abatement application. It was tabled from last weeks meeting for further information. James made a motion to approve the Dent abatement, Roberta seconded and all were in favor.

Mike Price and Reuben Hull were in to discuss the proposed Planner position. An email from John Hayden recommending the Board hire Reuben Hull as the Town Planner was read. Mike presented a list of recommended duties for the Planner position.

Reuben presented a description of his firm and a general resume to the Board. The Board discussed specific areas they would like to see the Planner work on. The Board would like to incorporate code enforcement into the Planner position.

James asked Fran Lane if the position had to be advertised. Fran said the Planner could be hired on a contract basis and not hired as an employee. The contract would be on a yearly basis.

James suggested a master service agreement between the Planner and the Town. A master service agreement would establish a contractual relationship between the parties where changes could be made at any time.

James asked Reuben to come to next week's Selectmen's meeting to meet Selectman Janet Smith.

Mike Price informed the Board of Selectmen that the Planning Board will collect the information from each town department for the CIP and deliver the information to the Building Advisory Committee.

Fran was in to update the Board on the Piscassic Greenway project. He met with Wolfe Tone of TPL on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Fran went over the easement exhibit and purchase and sales agreement with the Board. He also displayed a map defining all the land involved in the greenway project. Fran presented his comments and suggestions on the purchase and sales and went over them with the Board.

Fran informed the Board that Attorney Charles Tucker suggested that because the town is tax stamp exempt that the town purchase the entire 340 acres and turn around and convey it to the Trust for Public Land (TPL). Fran voiced concerns with this suggestion. The \$500,000 from the first bond was established in a way that the town could buy development rights not the actual property. James suggested we designate the 500k towards the purchase of the easements.

Fran met with Christine Wilson. She will be doing the title work and hopes to have it done by April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Fran left a copy of the environment study dated March 8, 2005 for the Board to review.

Fran would like to hold another work session on the Greenway Project. He would like to meet on Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. James would like Badger, Wolfe and an attorney representing TPL present at the next work session. Fran suggested they set up a conference call because TPL's attorney is located in Burlington VT.

Fran congratulated the Board of Selectmen on their newly elected positions. He explained his rates and how he updates the Board on the legal services he provides.

The audit acknowledgement letter was signed.

The MS2 form was reviewed. Janet questioned why warrant article 4 was not listed on the form. Wendy will contact DRA for advice.

A list of residents concerned with blasting near Dixon Ave. was reviewed. Wendy informed the Board that she and Sue have given the name of the blasting company and their phone number to those who have called.

James will contact David Dwyer in regards to the trailer on Old Route 108 owned by Guilford Rails. David has a copy of a letter concerning the removal of the trailer.

PSNH will send out a mailer to all town residents informing them that power will be shut down in town from 9:00am to 12:00pm on Saturday, April 9, 2005.

James informed the Board that he had spoken to Chief Reed in regards to the Rockingham County Dispatch Center. It is a free service to towns within the County. James will speak to Chief Jeff Buxton at a later date for his opinion.

The Board reviewed the minutes of March 15, 2005. James made a motion to approve the minutes of March 15, 2005, Janet seconded and all were in favor.

Janet sent copies of a sample personnel policy to James and Roberta. James will email Janet and Roberta a sample copy of what he has.

Wendy was directed to make copies of the information regarding the Case land dispute. She will send a copy to Roberta and leave a copy for Janet for Thursday.

James made a motion to adjourn at 11:15pm, Janet seconded and all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

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Wendy V. Chase